

U. S. ADVISES POTATO RAISING

Department of Agriculture
Points to Possibilities for Use as
Stock Food and Making Starch

ALSO CONVERTED TO ALCOHOL

Germans Teach Valuable Lessons in
How to Keep Tubers From Season
to Season. Millions of Bushels
Dried.

Washington, D. C.—The necessity from time to time of protecting the American potato industry against the introduction of diseases from foreign countries by quarantine regulations places upon the nation the responsibility of producing its own future supply. This means that the country must continually produce more potatoes than it need for home consumption.

The profitable utilization of the surplus so produced is of vital importance to the success of the industry, as is pointed out in Department of Agriculture Bulletin No. 47. This bulletin calls the attention of the American growers to the fact that they may obtain valuable lessons from Germany whose potato acreage is more than double that of this country and the crop harvested more than four times over total.

The great problem in this country is how a surplus of potatoes might best be disposed of once the production has been increased, and if we look to Germany for our lesson we find that their surplus potato crop is used for the manufacture of alcohol, and for drying.

In Germany the potato-drying industry is the last development in the utilization of surplus potatoes and in one year recently over 12,000,000 bushels were dried in factories.

This industry should, particularly merit the consideration of our people. Dried potatoes have been fed with complete success, as a substitute for corn, not only to cattle, but to horses as well.

To make potato-drying a profitable industry in this country, one of the problems to be met would be the expense of picking up and delivering to the factory of culls and other potatoes not marketable for table purposes. This is because of the present cost of labor. In many cases, however, labor already is necessary and is used to remove these culls from the field to prevent the spread of potato diseases.

In Germany the industry has proved such a satisfactory solution for taking care of the entire surplus crop that German farmers now seek to plant a maximum acreage without fear that their various markets will be oversupplied.

The feeding of potatoes to swine makes one of the important uses in Germany, and already 40 per cent of the entire production is now used in that way.

It is estimated that potatoes have a value of 25 cents per bushel for direct feeding. The difficulty in American potato districts is that the agriculture is not yet sufficiently diversified; the swine are not there to be fed. This will, however, be overcome as time passes and farm practices become better organized; then very large quantities of potatoes could be so utilized.

The country is producing to-day an average of 20,000,000 pounds of potato starch annually, and has made large importations from Germany besides. This potato starch is preferred in this country to corn starch for sizing in cotton mills. Economic improvements in the introducing of new factory methods and increasing the quantity of potatoes used should make this industry a more satisfactory one.

The manufacture of alcohol from potatoes has not yet become established in the United States, as the price of potatoes marketable for other purposes has been too high. However, this method might well help take care of a surplus crop, if such a surplus were produced in this country.

ROOSTS.

As a general rule, the roosts are given least consideration, in arranging a poultry house. If the family is just entering upon the poultry culture business and there is a building on the premises, it is used to shelter the fowls. After the nests have been provided, a few poles, or any other available material on which a hen might sleep, are nailed across one corner of the room, or placed at different heights on a slanting frame at back of room. Every hen wants to get onto the top roost and if there is not room for all on the upper pole or board, some are going to receive serious injury from falling to the floor in their attempt to find room for one more.

Place all roosts on the same level and there will not be a continuous scramble for the preferred position. Also have all roosts and poultry-house equipment movable so that it can easily be removed for cleaning the house and for and fighting the vermin.

If the roosts are nailed solid to the building, the mites will flourish in the cracks, like a green bay tree, and no amount of disinfectant will dislodge them, for it will be impossible to get it into their homes. When the roosts are removable, the room can be emptied of furniture and given a good coat of whitewash mixed with disinfectant, and all of the accessories can be painted with the vermin killer, which will soon put them out of business.

MAKING AUTOMOBILE PARTS.

Manufacturers Abandon Other Lines
to Supply New Demand.

The large number of manufacturers who have been planning to produce automobile parts promises to be materially increased by the announcement of the automobile builders that they are unable to secure enough parts to make the output planned for 1910.

To-day the movement is taking in many manufacturers whose previous training has been in other directions, and according to the Iron Age the departure may be too radical to be wise. Enthusiasm for the new product may mean the neglect and serious injury to the old.

At the present time the successful automobile parts brings the handsome profit which a specialty usually commands. But, as with every other business, the time must come when competition will get down to the normal basis, with profits reduced to the usual level.

Thousands of inventors are working on new means to accomplish the same ends and improvements are coming in quick succession.

Found New Eskimo Tribe.

W. J. Bower, an Arctic explorer, reports the discovery of a tribe of Eskimos who, according to his statement, live on a point of Prince Albert Land. They call themselves Nunacooties, are tall, and look like North American Indians. The explorer was cordially welcomed by them, and he procured many rich furs.

From the town of the Nunacooties, Bower proceeded farther north, where he discovered immense copper deposits. On this trip he lost an eye through the bite of a spider. This was not the end of Bower's troubles, for after the eyeball was removed by the crude surgery of an Eskimo, the schooner used by the party was wrecked and the adventurers had to walk 130 miles to Point Barrow, where they were taken on board the whaler Jeannette.

Not Cold Weather to Him.

One of the guests at a reception held in Washington some time ago had a poor memory for faces, and in addition was a little nearsighted. During the evening he took the host to one side, after the manner of a man who had some important secret he was about to disclose, and in a deep whisper inquired:

"You see that tall man standing by the door?"

"Yes," answered the host.

"Well, I was talking to him awhile ago about the terribly cold weather we had in Nebraska last winter, and he yawned in my face."

"Don't you know who that is?" inquired the host, trying his best to hide a smile.

"No."

"Why, that's Commander Robert E. Peary."

The Captain's Repartee.

The captain of a trans-Atlantic liner, having become irritable as a result of some minor troubles in the ship's management and the unusually large number of ridiculous inquiries made by tourists, was heading for the "bridge" when a dapper young man halted him to inquire the cause of the commotion off the starboard side of the ship. Being on the port side, the captain politely replied, with some sarcasm, he was not certain, but thought it possible that a cat fish had just had kittens.—What-to-Eat.

Capital Punishment in Germany.

Although little is heard outside Prussia of capital punishment within the kingdom, the law is by no means a dead letter. In seven years there have been 98 executions, ten of the condemned being women. Silesia heads the list with 211 executions, followed by Brandenburg, Posen and Rhineland. No executions take place in Berlin, the condemned being taken to the prison at Ploetzensee, in Brandenburg, where they have a standing guillotine.

Didn't Forget Himself.

A three-year-old waif in a deaconesses' home offered up this prayer, says the Delawarean. "Oh, God bless all in this home (mentioning each by name), and all the sailors in the sea, that the ships won't run over them, and all the poor boys and girls that they may get bread and candy, and bless Alfred Warren Randall" (himself)—a hesitation, then added, "the one what's got the nightgown on."

Woman's Opportunity.

Good sense is the greatest preservative of health. Never before have women had such a chance in the world as to-day and in this country. But the chance will avail them nothing unless they have the health to seize it and the vigor to hold it.

Duties of Military Attache.

The duties of a military attache are to make himself thoroughly acquainted with every change that takes place in military affairs and to report from time to time on the mobilization, armament and equipment of the power to which he is accredited.

The Guest of Honor.

A characteristic story is told of an occasion when Lord Avebury had to undergo a surgical operation. His friends endeavored to persuade him to take chloroform. "No thanks," he replied, "I would much rather be present at the operation."

Not a Profitable Job.

"Dodgin' work," said Uncle Eben, "is an occupation dat's liable to keep you busy an' fretted 20 hours a day, an' no vacations whatsoever."

BASE BALL DOPE.



Milton Stock has been looked over every spring by McGraw for several years, only to be sent back for more seasoning. This year the chances are that he will stick. Schaefer's desertion has left a hole in the infield that may be hard to fill, as none of the recruits but Stock seem capable of it. Snodgrass or Grant of the veterans are also possibilities.

Stock had a good year with Mobile last season, batting .281 and stealing 49 bases.



Tom Seaton seems to have cast his lot with the Federals. This is not his first experience outside of organized baseball, for he was at one time with the California outlaw league.

It is said that his contract calls for \$7,000 per year, and is for three years. He is to pitch for Brooklyn, and will be their mainstay in the box if he performs as well as he did in Philadelphia.



Doolan's jump to the Feds left the Phillies pretty flat, as far as short stop position is concerned. They will try to plug the gap with Herbert Murphy from Thomasville, in the Georgia State League. It is a far hop from Thomasville to Philadelphia.

INCREASED LAND VALUES.

Holdings in Empire State Double in
the Last Decade.

Almost four and a half billions of dollars have been added to the valuation of all the land in the Empire State within the last ten years, according to figures from the State Tax Commission, that are being made the basis of special study by traction experts at the headquarters of the Street Railway Association of the State of New York.

While over thirteen hundred miles of trolley track have been spread through its undeveloped sections during this period, the State's total assessed value of real estate is recorded as increasing over 82 per cent. In 1900, just \$4,811,593,059 represented the official valuation of New York's real property, when less than 2,500 miles of scattered traction systems existed; while with over 4,500 miles of car track to-day, assessed values of \$9,266,628,487 have just been announced.

With its great increase in population New York City has more than doubled its real estate valuation following the opening up of sections along the new subway, the records of the Tax Commission show.

Confetti Throwing at Weddings.

The Rev. R. W. Hunt, vicar of St. Giles's, Reading, in this month's parochial magazine expresses himself forcibly concerning the throwing of confetti at weddings, which he describes as silly, vulgar and irreverent. "The old custom of throwing a few grains of rice," he says, "though a foolish one, was more or less harmless and it was probably viewed with favor at least by the birds of the air. But the throwing of thousands of small paper disks has nothing whatever to commend it. If there are people who really feel compelled to cover themselves and their friends with colored bits of paper, by all means let them do so in their own homes, where they will be subjected to the wholesome discipline of themselves, brushing up the mess they have made; but God's house is not the place for this kind of thing."—London Daily Mail.

A Cigar Box Camera.

A fair camera can be made from two or three old cigar boxes by boys and girls who are reasonably expert in carpentry. The writer once saw one made in such a way by a boy of fourteen for a total cost of 50 cents. It took excellent pictures and was fitted with a lens that consisted of a pin prick in a sheet of tin foil. I have even heard of using silver foil paper, such as is often wrapped around chocolates. Instead of using sheet tin or brass. In exposing interior subjects such as parlors, sitting rooms and playrooms a much longer exposure must be given to the plate. I once took a dark interior with an exposure of three hours.—St. Nicholas.

Gratified Fanmakers.

Queen Mary's acceptance of a fan, to be presented by the Fanmakers' Company on the occasion of the coronation has given that ancient body the liveliest satisfaction. On the occasion of Queen Victoria's jubilee and at the coronation of Queen Alexandra the company was privileged to make similar gifts, and thus to bring to public notice the fact that fan making was once a great industry in the city of London. The Fanmakers is probably the only city company which may be said to directly concern itself with women's finery, and it is most appropriate that it should make an offering to the Queen on her coronation.—Lady's Pictorial.

The Bride's Look.

A girl about to be married worries so much she begins to look like an old married woman. In addition to worrying about her clothes and coaxing her folks to give her a new outfit, she sits up too late with her young man, and the result is an anxious, careworn look a week before the wedding that cannot be told from the look on the face of a woman who has been married a year or two. Look at the next girl you meet who is soon to be married, and you will remark that she has "aged rapidly."—Atchison Globe.

DON'T EVER LISTEN TO VULGAR JOKES

Laughing at Risque Stories
Will Lower You In Others'
Estimation.

A SHORT time ago while visiting an old friend, a grandmother of 70, by the way, her little granddaughter came into the room, and, as she was grinning very widely, we immediately asked her to tell us the joke.

"Oh, it's nothing much, grandma," she said. "I just heard a funny story," and she looked, as I thought, inquiringly at me. So I said, "Well, let's hear it!"

But she hesitated a moment and fidgeted until her grandmother asked again to hear the story, and then Mary begged to be let off, "for I don't think you'd like to hear it," she finished.

"My dear," said her grandmother, mildly, "if you could stand it I think we can, too," and she made Mary tell the joke.

"I didn't blame 16-year-old Mary for not wanting to tell her little story, for it was a decidedly vulgar joke which she told us two of her school boy friends had told a group of girls of which she was one."

But the grandmother was wise and did not scold the girl, for she knew that Mary had been punished enough in being forced to tell before me. Her only advice was, "Don't tell vulgar jokes or laugh when others tell them and never allow one of your boy friends to tell you a story that is in any way objectionable."

And I thought it might not come amiss to pass her advice on to other Marys of whom I know there are many, not only in school, but in the business world as well.

There are youths and even older men, I am sorry to say, who seem to take a keen delight in telling a risque story to girls, simply to see whether they will "fall for it" and laugh, or take the wiser course and fall to see the point.

A young girl cannot afford to lose the respect of the men she knows, and a very sure way to drop considerably in their estimation is to laugh at these same risque stories.

But perhaps you will raise the objection that you know only gentlemen, and that gentlemen would scorn to recount a second-rate story. But who knows what daredevil spirit may whisper it in the ear of the perfect little gentlemen who walks down the street with you to tell you the story he heard at the theater the other night and which is perilously near the danger mark?

And, then, there are the other young fellows who go to the second and third class theaters in search of fun, who think these tales and jokes "some wit, you bet," and who use them to enliven the conversation and to show what up-to-date "chaps" they are.

But the right sort of a girl can make it understood very easily that she does not care for this sort of thing, and instead of being rated as a prude or a prig these young chaps will respect her all the more.

And it doesn't require such drastic measures to let the men know that risque jokes are distasteful, for nothing takes all the laugh out of a joke so quickly as a perfectly calm expression on the hearer's face.

If the joke teller is a gentleman, he will know in a minute if he has offended you, and if he is not a gentleman—well, it is better that you make it plain to him that he must either discontinue such stories or that you do not care to have him to speak to you at all.

Advocates of a pure-food and drug law in Japan have brought to light the fact that large quantities of rice are sold that are adulterated with quartz and sand which were originally used for the legitimate purpose of polishing the grains and were frequently left in with grain sold in bulk by weight to increase the weight.

Save the Pieces

The German people treat wood in almost the same manner the Chicago packers are said to use a pig—utilizing every scrap except the rasp of the saw as it cuts a log—fiber or pulp being used to make artificial silk, bristles, paper, carpet, twine, yarn, canvas, cloth; and parquet flooring is made from sawdust.

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